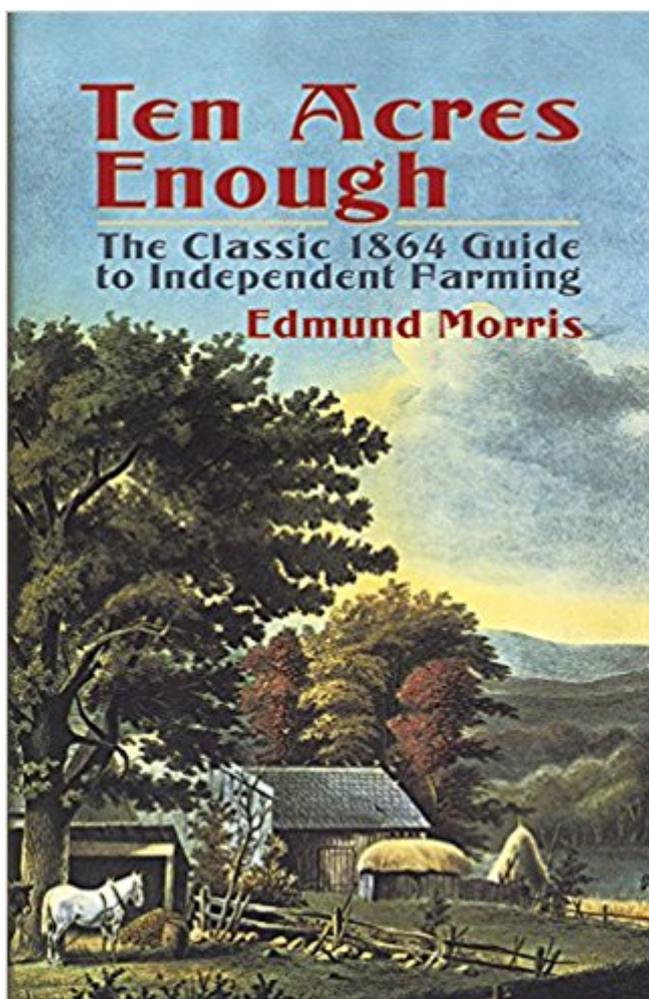


The book was found

Ten Acres Enough: The Classic 1864 Guide To Independent Farming



Synopsis

When author Edmund Morris left the business world and bought a small farm in the early 1800s, he was so pleased with the results that he decided to tell others how he did it. His simply written chronicle "one of the most popular books of its time" emphasizes that agricultural success depends not on how much you grow but on what and how. Between thoughtful discussions of choosing the location, crop selection, and maintenance, he contrasts city and country life, despairs over weeds and raising pigs, and writes about the joy of establishing a home.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is one of my favorites. Since it was written during the mid-1860's, the writing style is perhaps a bit different from what we are used to nowadays, but not distractingly so. This farmer knows how to tell a story. He starts with his longing to leave the city, leads us through his search for an affordable property and then lets us follow him as he chooses his crops -- among them, 804 peach trees at 7 cents a piece, all dutifully "tarred" to prevent worms -- and markets the produce for the first few years on the farm. Along the way, he scatters fascinating tidbits about his life. One of my favorites is the story of his blackberry plants. While living in town, he had read of a new kind of blackberry that intrigued him, and though it was a very unheard of thing to do at the time, he ordered six of the plants by mail, at the princely sum of five dollars. When the plants arrived, he was shocked at their size and appearance. "They looked like long white worms, with here and there a bud or an eye" and was too embarrassed to admit to his wife that he paid so much for them. But he planted them and tended

them, and the next year had a magnificent crop of berries, and so finally admitted to the cost. He and his wife agreed it was a bargain at that, and since they loved the berries so much, they dug up the plants and took them along to their new farm. There, the berries attracted the attention of neighbors and nurserymen, and by being one of the first suppliers in the area, he was able to sell \$460 worth of blackberry plants that first year on the farm -- quite a return on his initial five dollar investment.

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